HAF comics

04

Trevorrow
Connolly
Winegarner

BONUS
DIGITAL EDITION
scroll down for details

STAR WARS

DUEL OF THE FATES

Duel of the Fates #4 pg. 1 Wingarner 2020

CORUSCANT.

THE PHANTOM HAWK DESCENDS THROUGH THE SKYSCRAPER CANYONS.

THE CITY UNDERGROUND IS DENSE AND ALIVE, LIKE ROOTS OF A TREE.

SO MANY PEOPLE LIVING UNDER-GROUND.

RICH FOLKS DON'T SPEND TIME THINKING ABOUT WHAT THEY'RE STAND-ING ON.

FINN EYES THE JEDI TEMPLE IN THE DISTANCE.

THAT'S IT. DROP R2 AND 3PO AT STREET LEVEL.

I'M AFRAID ALL MY KNOWLEDGE OF CORUSCANT IS LIMITED TO THE UPPER LEVEL.

BEEP!

BOOP!

ELITIST?

WHERE DO YOU EVEN LEARN THESE WORDS?

AFTER DROP-PING THE DROIDS OFF, THE PHANTOM HAWK ALIGHTS ON THE ROOF OF A SKY-SCRAPER.

ROSE SETS UP THE GRAPPLING CANON.
SHE AIMS IT AT ONE OF THE SPIRES OF THE JEDI TEMPLE, A QUARTER MILE AWAY.
SHOONT!
YOU DON'T HAVE A FEAR OF HEIGHTS, DO YOU?
IT'S NOT THE HEIGHT I'M AFRAID OF. IT'S HITTING THE GROUND.
SO YOU'LL BE FINE IF WE DON'T FALL.
THEY ZIPLINE A THOUSAND FEET ABOVE THE CITY.
THEY LAND IN THE TEMPLE SPIRE.
THE CHAMBER IS BARELY RECOGNIZABLE, LONG FORGOTTEN.

R2, DO YOU HAVE THAT MESSAGE READY?

R2 LEADS 3PO THROUGH THE DECREPIT COURTYARD AT THE BASE OF THE TEMPLE.

THEY MOVE PAST COVETOUS LOOKS FROM THE CITY'S DWELLERS, THE POOREST OF THE POOR.

BEEP BOOP!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN I STAND OUT?

GOLD IS *NOT* OSTENTATIOUS.

LEAVE THE VOCABULARY TO ME, YOU GLORIFIED MECHANIC.

ROSE FINDS A SOCKET IN THE WALL.

FINN FINDS ANOTHER ACROSS THE ROOM.

FINN UNWRAPS A PAIR OF CRYSTALS.

NO!!

5,000-YEAR-OLD KYBER CRYSTAL.

VERY RARE.

YOU HAND IT TO ME.

SORRY.

THEY INSERT THE CRYSTALS.

READY? THREE... TWO...

THE SPIRE RUMBLES...

THE FLOOR OPENS AND A HUGE COPPER MACHINE RISES UP!

THEN IT SHORTS OUT.

THE MACHINE GOES DARK...

CAN'T IT BE EASY JUST ONE TIME?

ON REMNICORE...

KYLO PRACTICES HIS NEW DARK SIDE ABILITY, DRAINING THE LIFE FORCE...

... FROM THE LAST REMAINING GRONK BOAR.

RRRR... HISS... CROAK...!

FWUMP!

MORE.

THERE IS NO MORE.

YOU HAVE CONSUMED ALL THAT REMAINS.

A WIND CUTS FROM AN ICE CAVE BEYOND.

A FAINT GLOW WITHIN...

WHAT'S DOWN THERE?

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THE LIGHT FROM KYLO'S RED SABER REFRACTS IN THE VAST WALLS.

THE CAVE IS EMPTY.

BUT NOT SILENT.

THERE IS A SOUND FROM THE DARKNESS.

BREATHING.

KYLO STANDS HIS GROUND, UNSURE WHAT IS HAPPENING.

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SZZZZX

IT'S A BRUTAL FIGHT.

INTENSE LIGHTSABER COMBAT BETWEEN TWO ICONIC VILLAINS.

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BUT KYLO IS NO MATCH.

AARGH!!

GAH!!

HUFF! HUFF! HUFF!

I'M GOING TO *KILL* VALUM!

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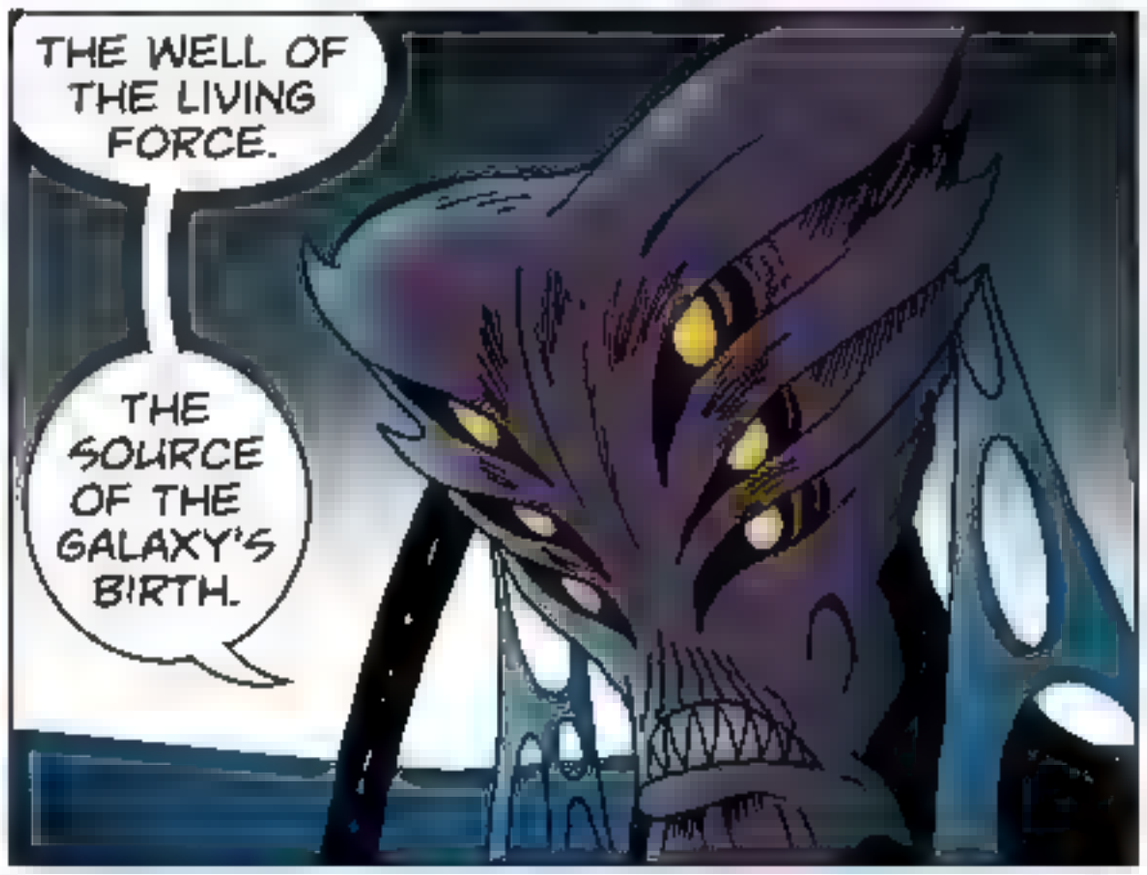
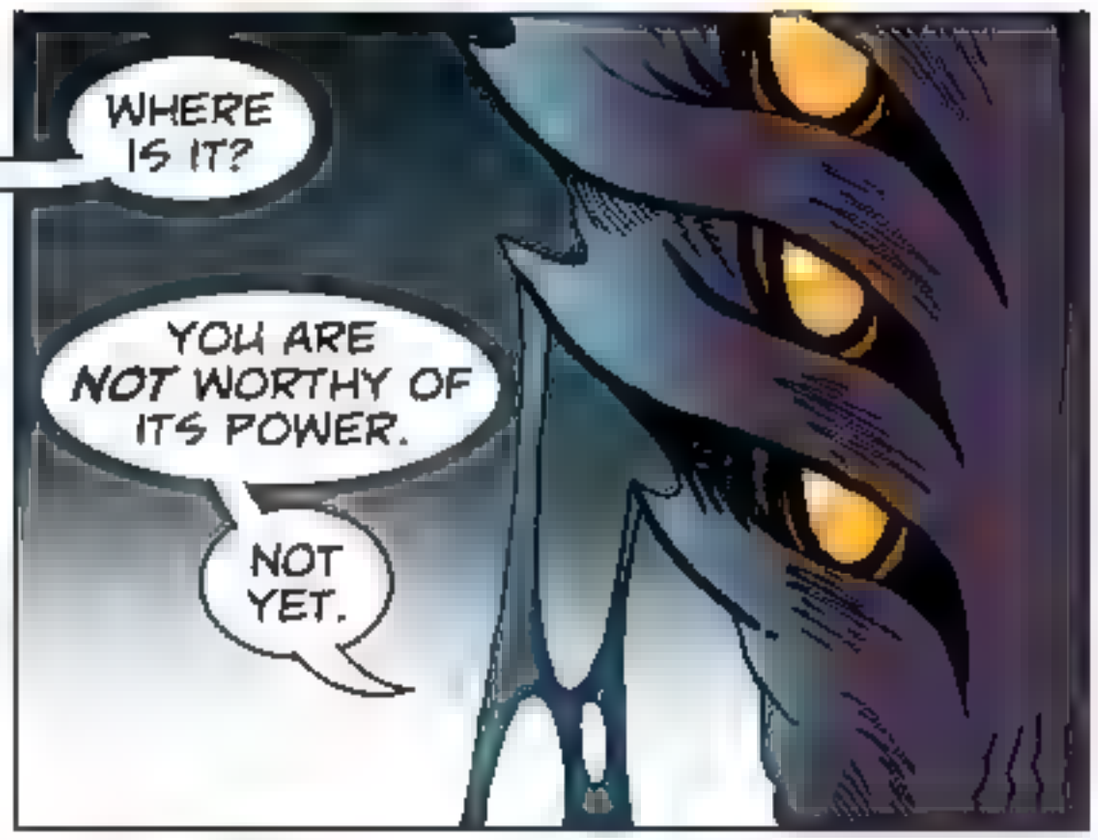
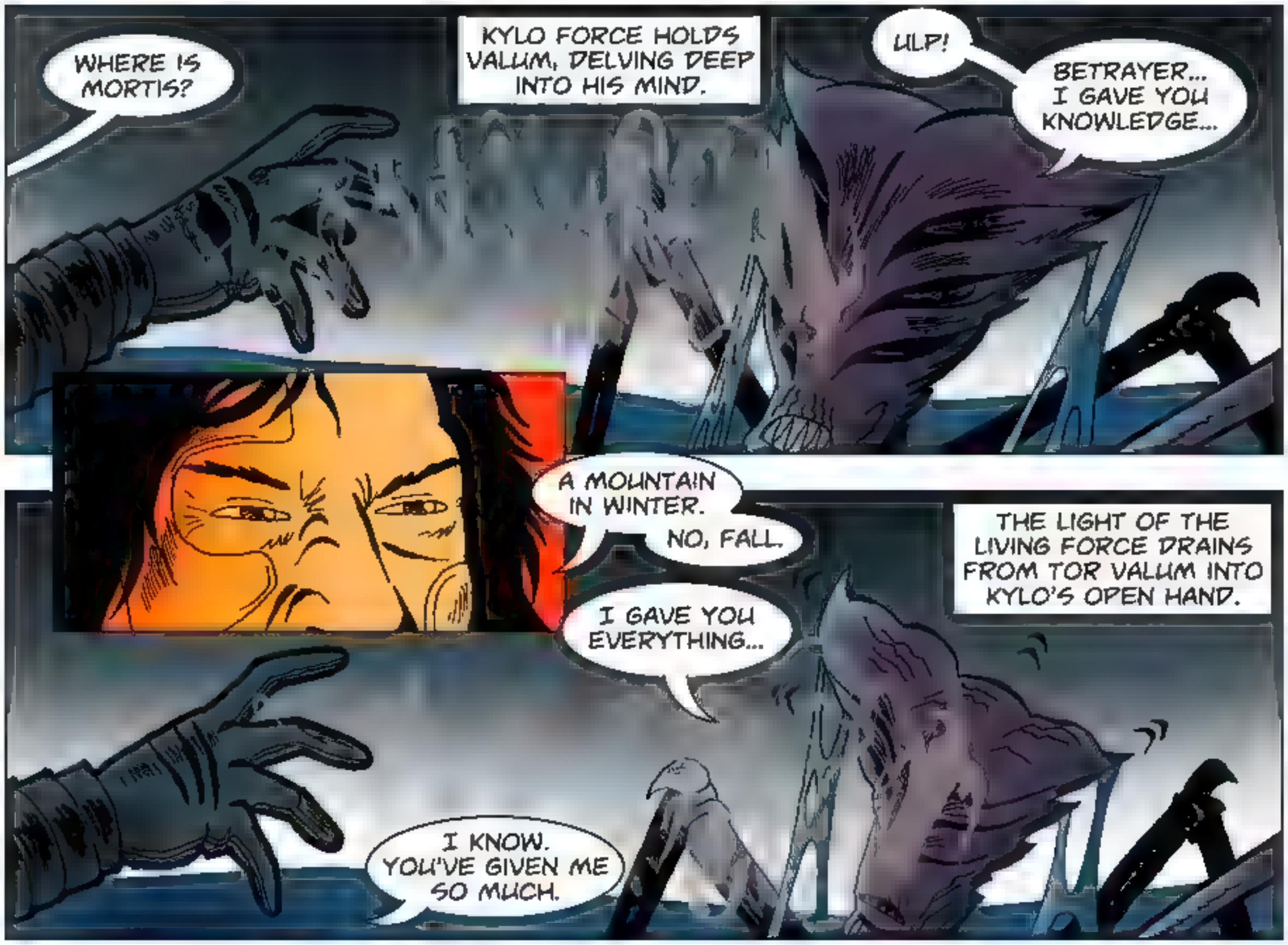
WHERE IS MORTIS?


THE WELL OF THE LIVING FORCE.
THE SOURCE OF THE GALAXY'S BIRTH.

I WANT TO BE STRONGER THAN THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE.


WHERE IS IT?
YOU ARE NOT WORTHY OF ITS POWER.
NOT YET.


WHERE IS MORTIS?
KYLO FORCE HOLDS VALUM, DELVING DEEP INTO HIS MIND.
ULP!
BETRAYER... I GAVE YOU KNOWLEDGE...
A MOUNTAIN IN WINTER.
NO, FALL.
I GAVE YOU EVERYTHING...
THE LIGHT OF THE LIVING FORCE DRAINS FROM TOR VALUM INTO KYLO'S OPEN HAND.
I KNOW. YOU'VE GIVEN ME SO MUCH.

THE ANCIENT BEING FALLS DEAD, REDUCED TO A WITHERED SHELL.

WHUMP!!

ON BONADAN, A POWERFUL DISTURBANCE COURSES THROUGH REY.

WHAT IS IT?

HE'S GROWING *STRONGER.*

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.

CORUSCANT...

WILL THIS OLD THING WORK WITH MODERN DROIDS?

YOU'RE ASKING ME ABOUT THE MECHANICS OF A FORCE-POWERED ANTENNA.

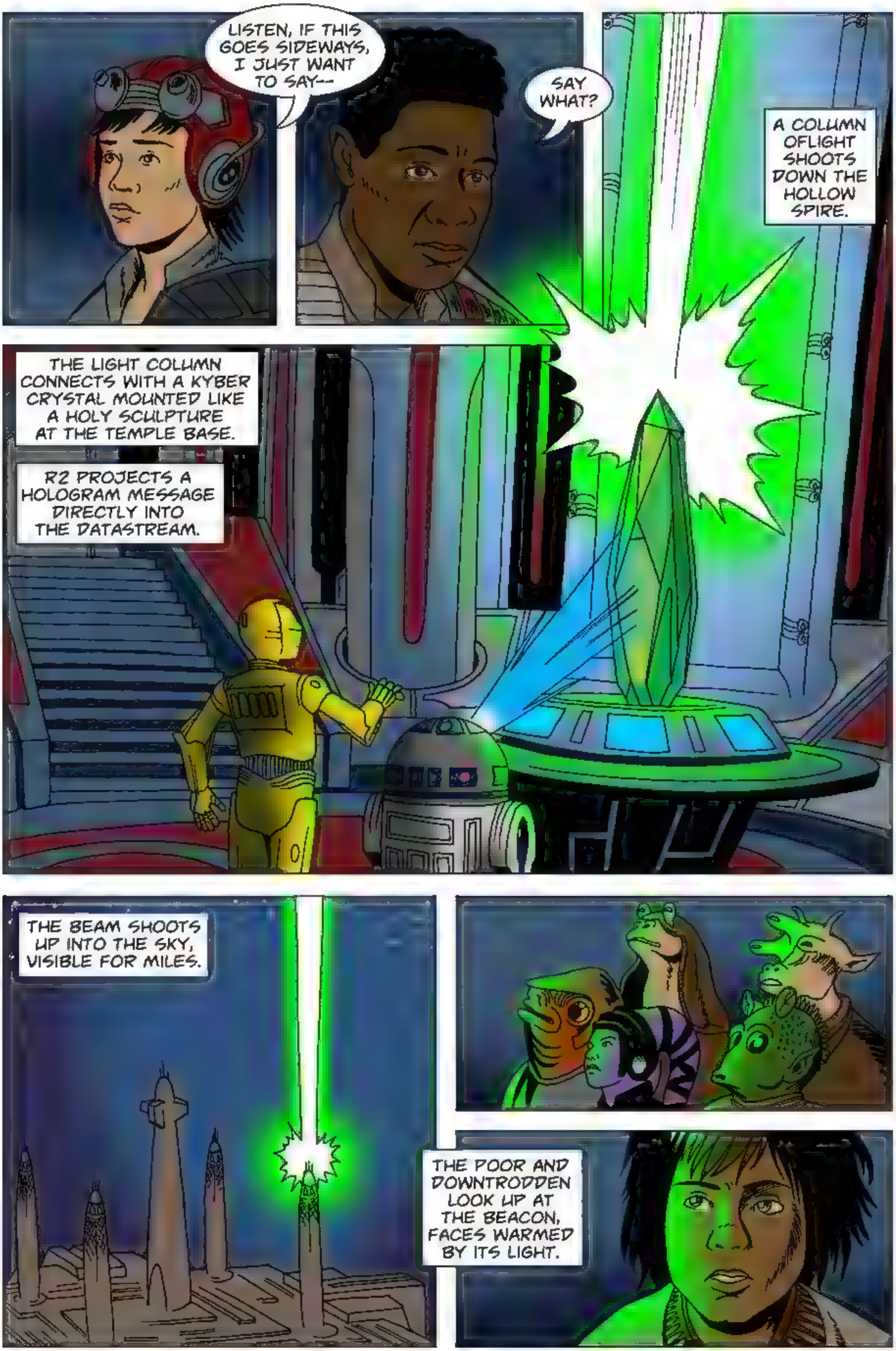
THMMMM!!

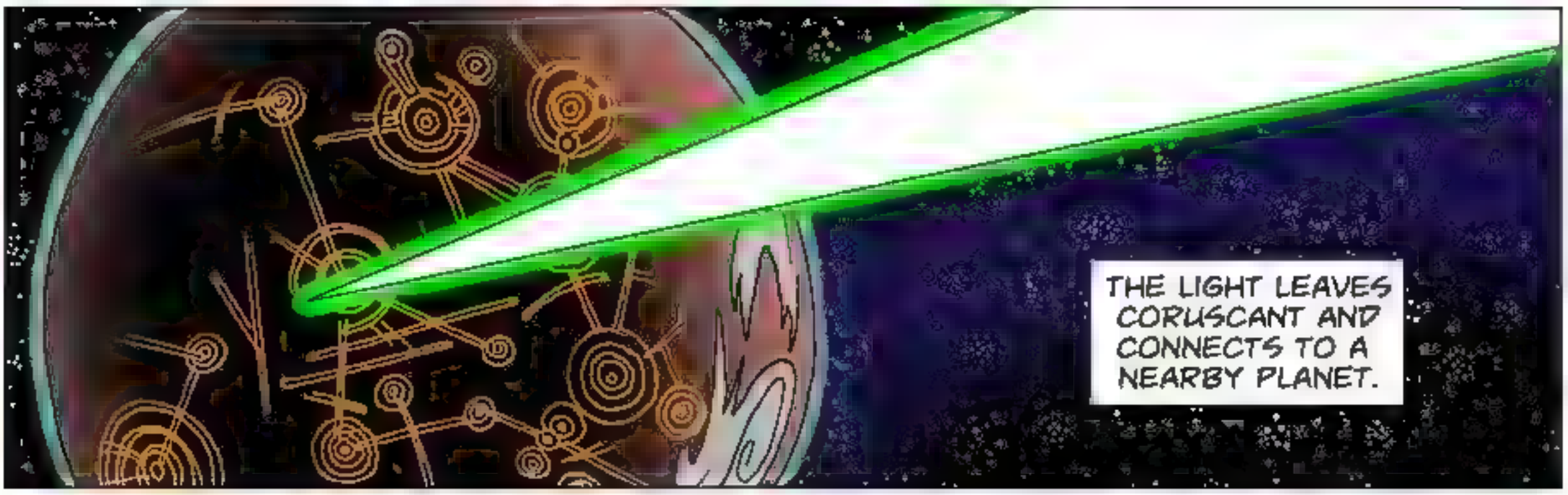
A LIGHT IGNITES WITHIN THE MACHINE.

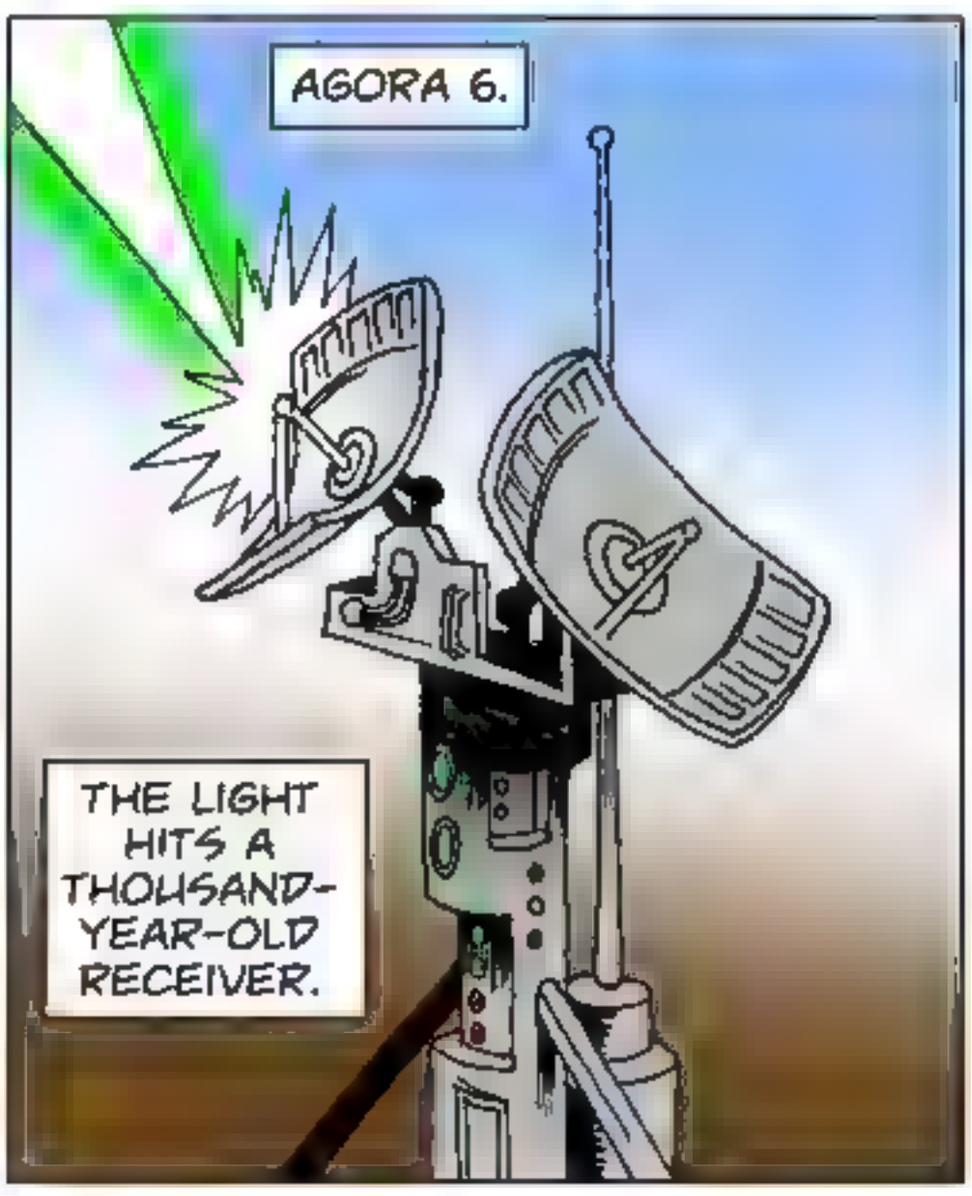
OUT OF YOUR REALM OF EXPERTISE?

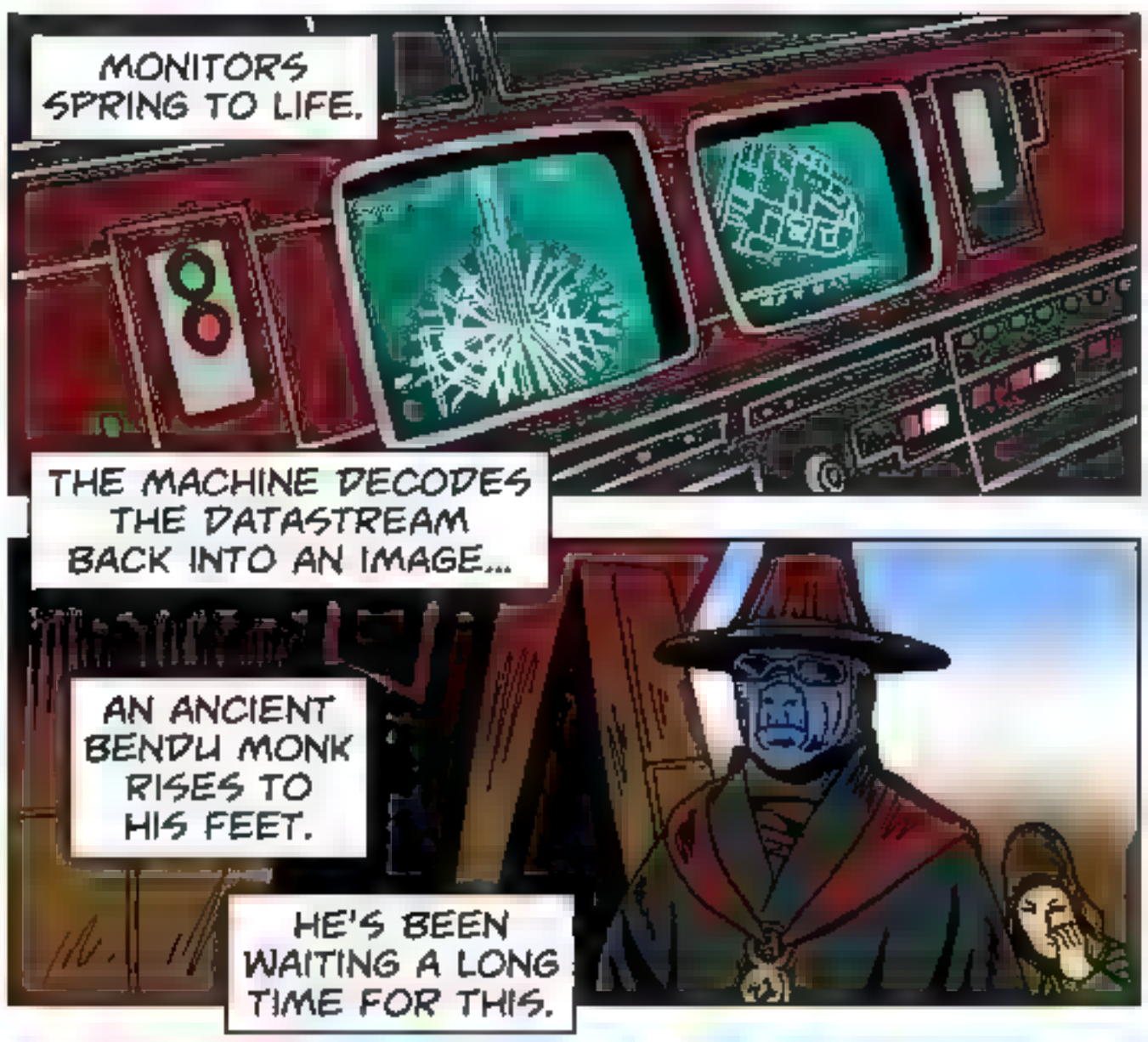
OUT OF *ANYONE'S* REALM OF EXPERTISE.

SO IS THERE, LIKE, AN "ON" BUTTON?


LISTEN, IF THIS GOES SIDEWAYS, I JUST WANT TO SAY--
SAY WHAT?
A COLUMN OF LIGHT SHOOTS DOWN THE HOLLOW SPIRE.
THE LIGHT COLUMN CONNECTS WITH A KYBER CRYSTAL MOUNTED LIKE A HOLY SCULPTURE AT THE TEMPLE BASE.
R2 PROJECTS A HOLOGRAM MESSAGE DIRECTLY INTO THE DATASTREAM.
THE BEAM SHOOTS UP INTO THE SKY, VISIBLE FOR MILES.
THE POOR AND DOWNTRODDEN LOOK UP AT THE BEACON, FACES WARMED BY ITS LIGHT.


THE LIGHT LEAVES CORUSCANT AND CONNECTS TO A NEARBY PLANET.


AGORA 6.
THE LIGHT HITS A THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD RECEIVER.


MONITORS SPRING TO LIFE.
THE MACHINE DECODES THE DATASTREAM BACK INTO AN IMAGE...
AN ANCIENT BENDU MONK RISES TO HIS FEET.
HE'S BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME FOR THIS.

PEASANTS IN A BREAD LINE LOOK UP AT THE LIGHT HITTING THE RECEIVER ON THE MOUNTAIN IN THE DISTANCE.

SUDDENLY, ALL THE DROIDS NEARBY BEEP WILDLY AND PROJECT A MESSAGE.
IT'S LEIA, ELEGANT IN HER WHITE ROBES.
THIS IS GENERAL LEIA ORGANA OF THE RESISTANCE.

THE RECEIVER SENDS THE BEAM OF LIGHT ANGLED ON A DIFFERENT TRAJECTORY.

THE LIGHT LEAVES THE AGORA SYSTEM AND CONNECTS WITH WAVETT.

EVERY DROID IN THE SHIPYARD SIMULTANEAOUSLY PROJECTS LEIA'S MESSAGE.

THE TIME HAS COME TO FORGE A PATH TO FREEDOM

MON CALA, FISH BAR.

THE FORCES OF OPPRESSION HAVE RULED THE GALAXY FOR TOO LONG.

GRIA.

THE LIGHT HITS A MAN-MADE STONE TOWER ON THE HORIZON.

WE MUST JOIN TOGETHER AND FIGHT.

SEND YOUR FASTEST SHIPS...

BOTHAWUI CITY.

ALL YOUR WARRIORS...

TRANDOSHA

OUR VOICES WILL *NOT* BE SILENCED.

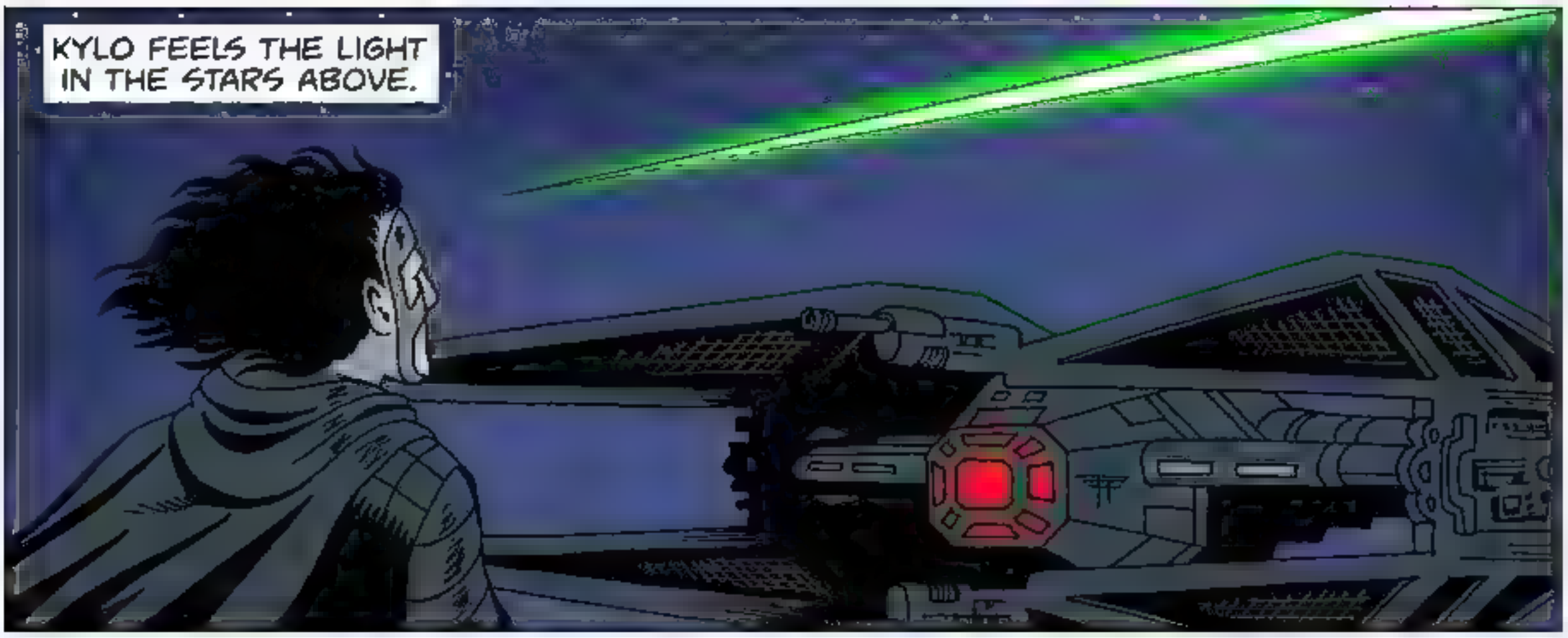
WE CAN NO LONGER LIVE IN THE SHADOW OF THE FIRST ORDER.

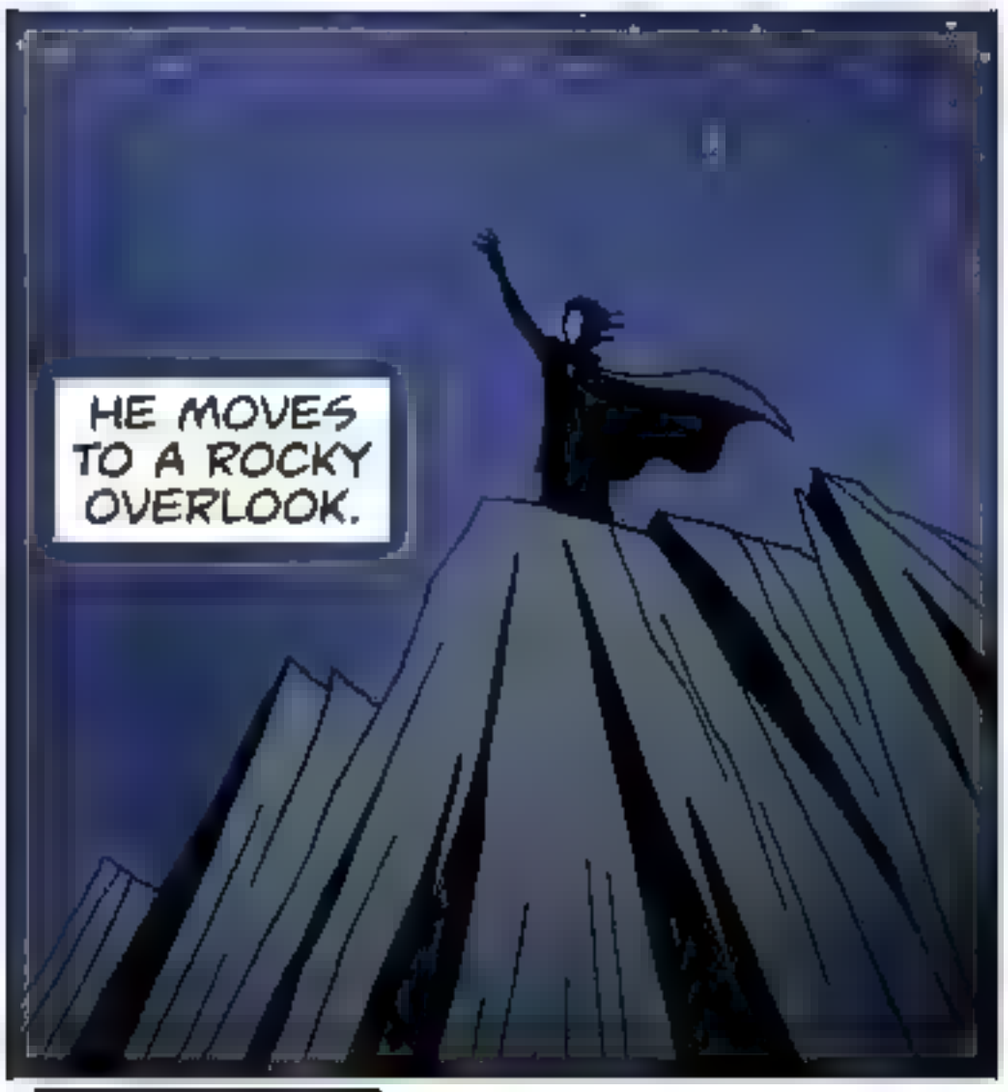
TATOOINE.

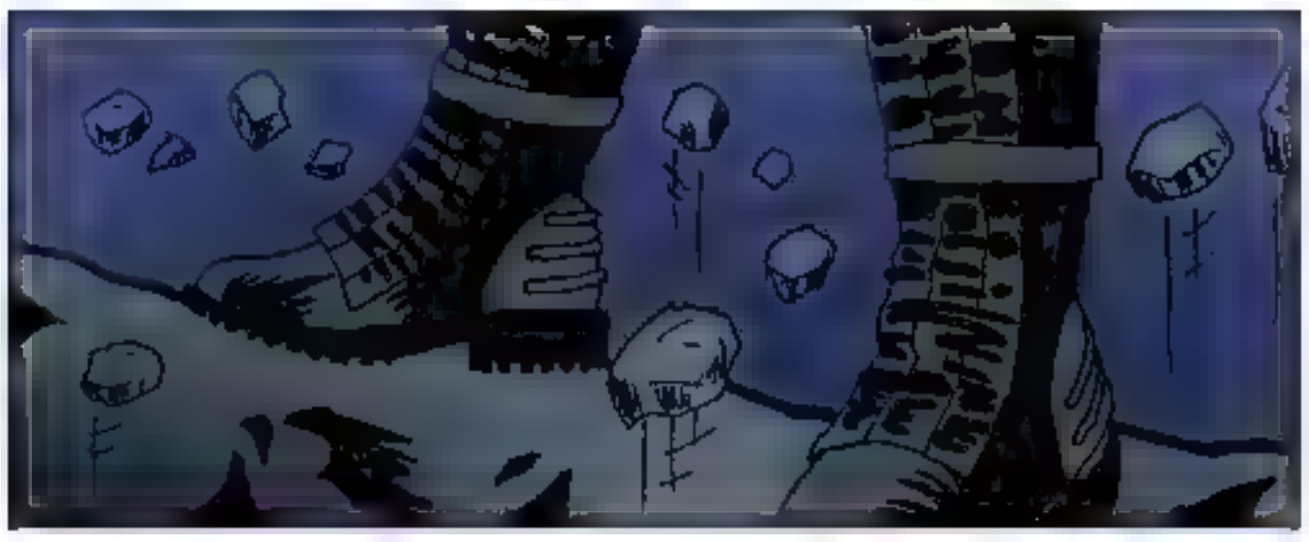
BONADAN.

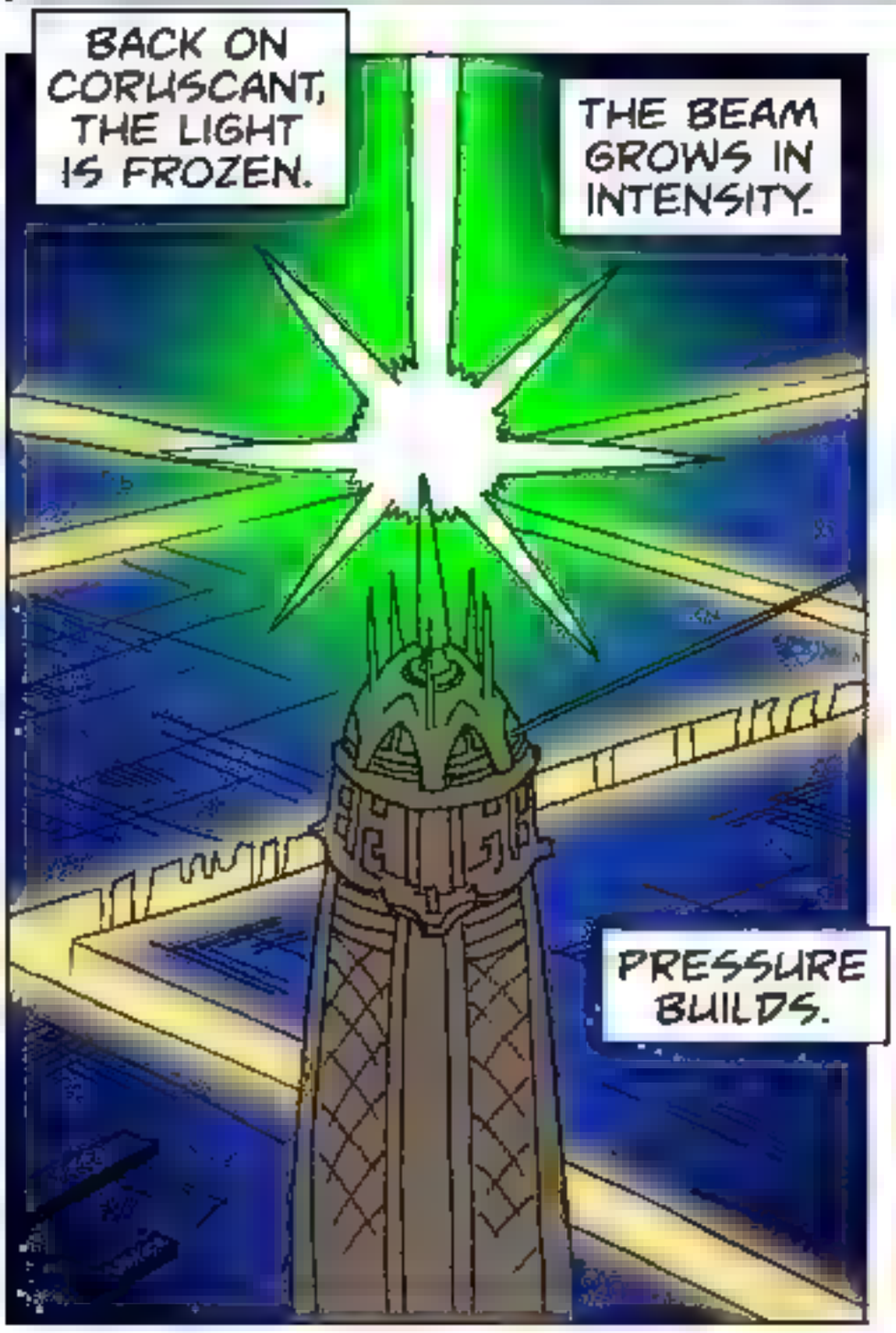
ON THE ECLIPSE BRIDGE, THE RESISTANCE FIRGHTERS ARE HOPEFUL AS THEY SEE LIGHT CONNECTING PLANETS.

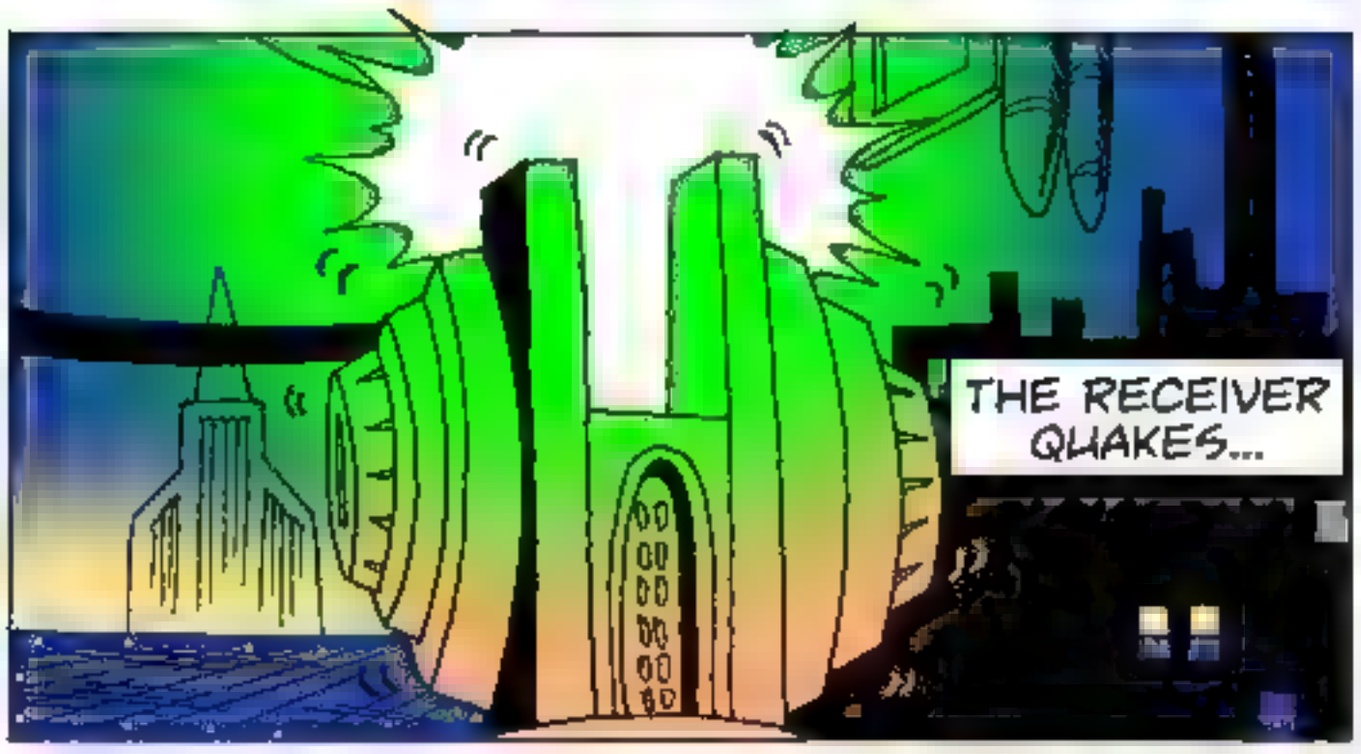
WE MUST STEP INTO THE LIGHT.


KYLO FEELS THE LIGHT IN THE STARS ABOVE.


HE MOVES TO A ROCKY OVERLOOK.




BACK ON CORUSCANT, THE LIGHT IS FROZEN.
THE BEAM GROWS IN INTENSITY.
PRESSURE BUILDS.


THE RECEIVER QUAKES...

FINN, SOMETHING'S WRONG...

THE ANCIENT DEVICE EXPLODES!

BOOM!

ON BONADAN, LEIA'S HOLOGRAMS DISAPPEAR.

POE, WE HAVE TO GET TO THE SHIP.

WHAT IS IT?

YOU OKAY, FINN?

LOOK OUTSIDE.

A TRIO OF T.I.E. FIGHTERS SURROUND THE SPIRE

COME ON!

FINN AND ROSE ZIP AWAY FROM THE TOWER SPIRE AS THE T.I.E.S OPEN FIRE!

BOOM!

ROSE'S SHOT SHATTERS THE FRONT WINDSHIELD OF ONE OF THE T.I.E.S, HITTING THE PILOT.

THE SHIP SPINS OUT AND CRASHES.

THWACK!

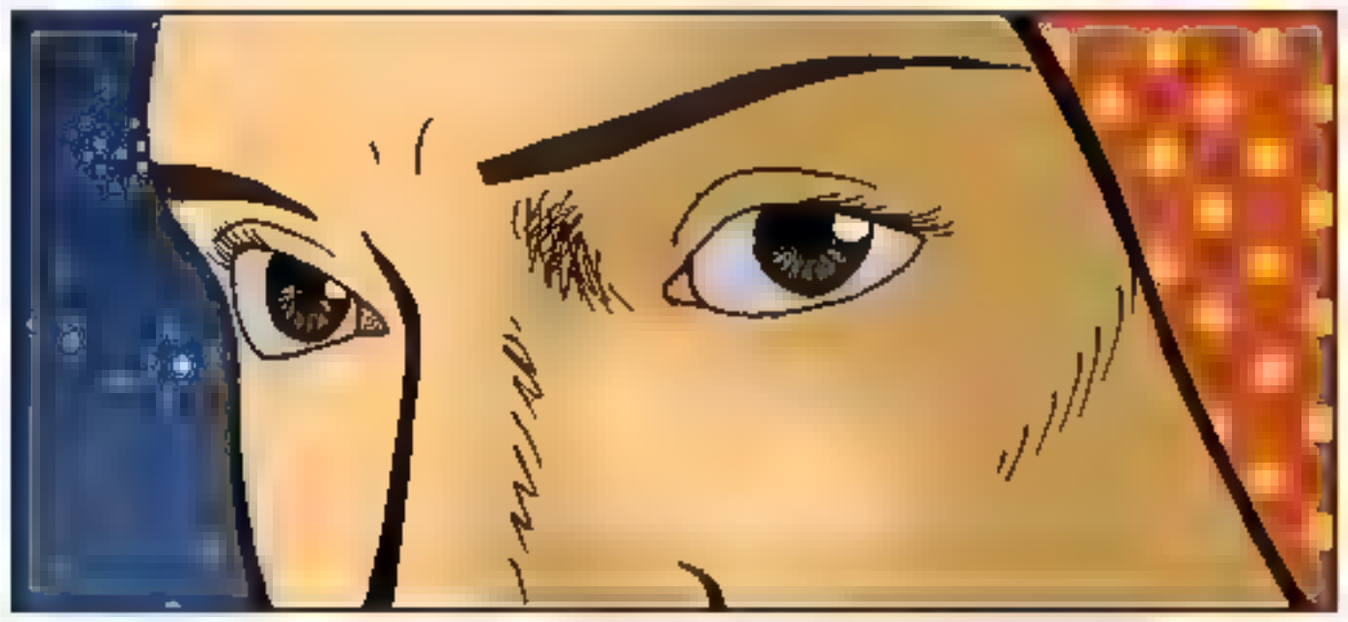
SUDDENLY, THE ZIP LINE SNAPS!

AND ROSE FALLS INTO DARKNESS...

ROSE!

ON BONADAN, REY CRUMBLES, FEELING FINN'S PAIN.

FINN...



THE KNIGHTS OF REN PART THE CROWD...

OKAY, I'M WITH YOU. WE GOTTA GET BACK TO THE SHIP.

REY FORCE-PUSHES EVERYTHING AROUND HER, A POWERFUL CONCUSSION BLAST THAT KNOCKS EVERY-THING AWAY...

... INCLUDING POE!

REY JUMPS ONTO THE DOCK AND UNHOOKS A RAZORSAIL.

GET ON!

CAN YOU SAIL?

REY CHANNELS THE FORCE AND FILLS THE SAILS WITH A GUST OF WIND THAT LAUNCHES THEM INTO THE BAY.

THEY SPEED ACROSS THE BAY TOWARD THE LANDING ARRAY AS THE KNIFE 9 FIRES ON THEM FROM ABOVE!

REY THINKS FAST...

SHE TURNS AND SHOOTS THE SAIL CORD!

HOLD ON!

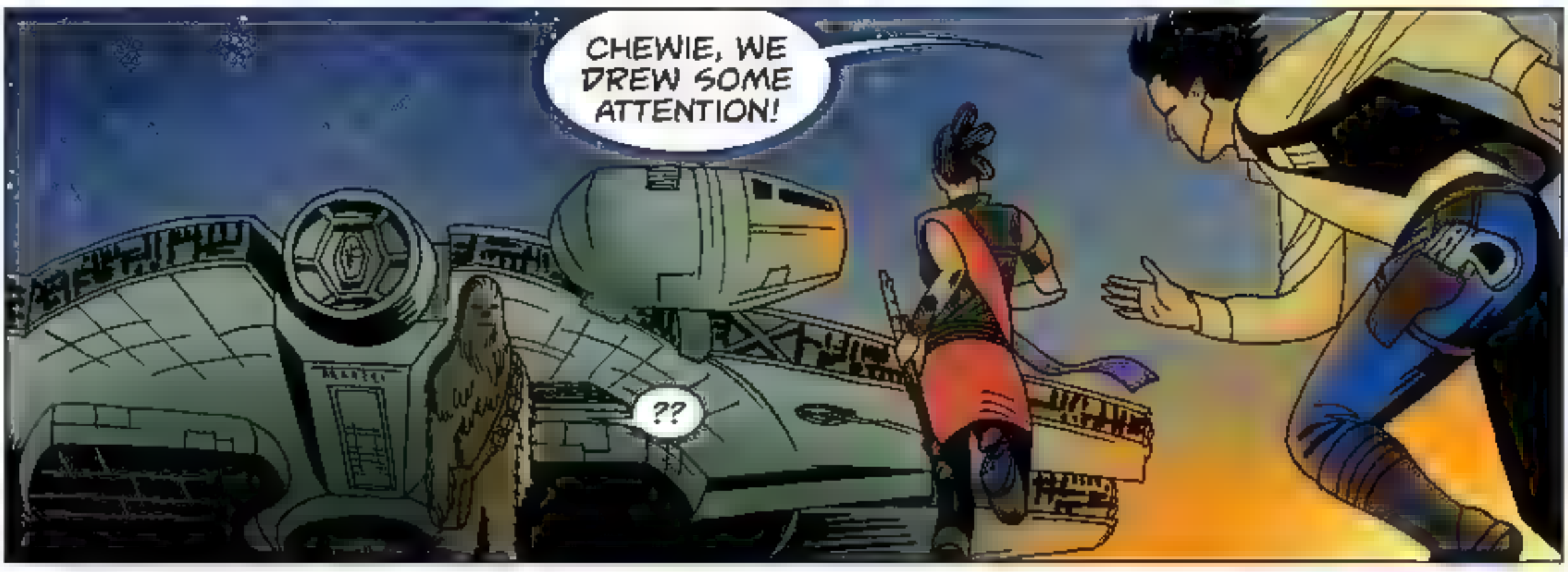
THE DISCONNECTED SAIL LIFTS THEM UP LIKE PARASAILORS...

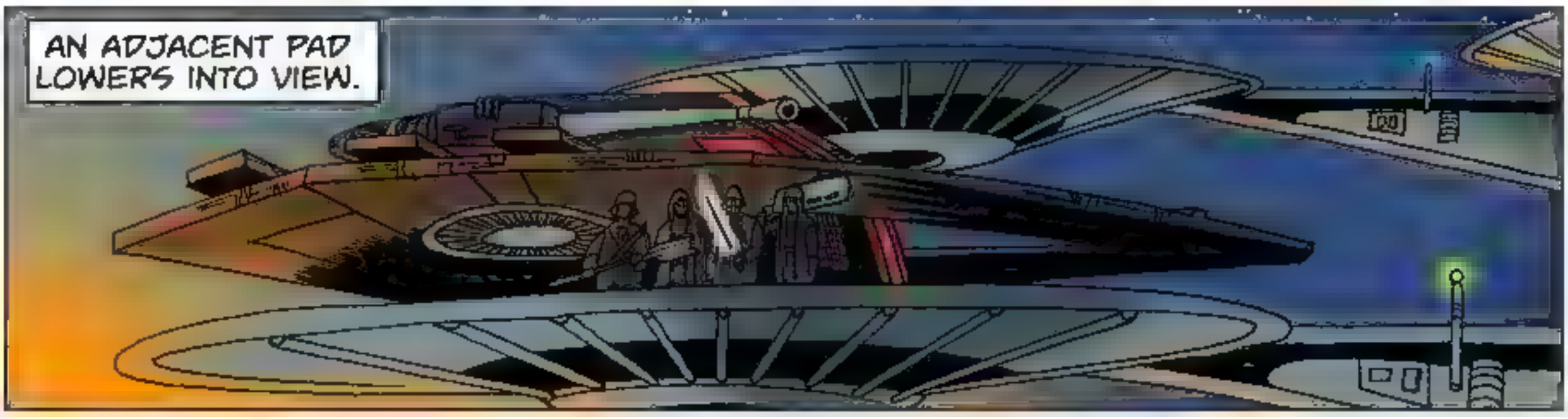
... ONTO THE FIRST REVOLVING LAND-ING PAD OF THE DOCKING ARRAY...

... AS THE RAZOR-SAIL CRASHES INTO THE SHORE!

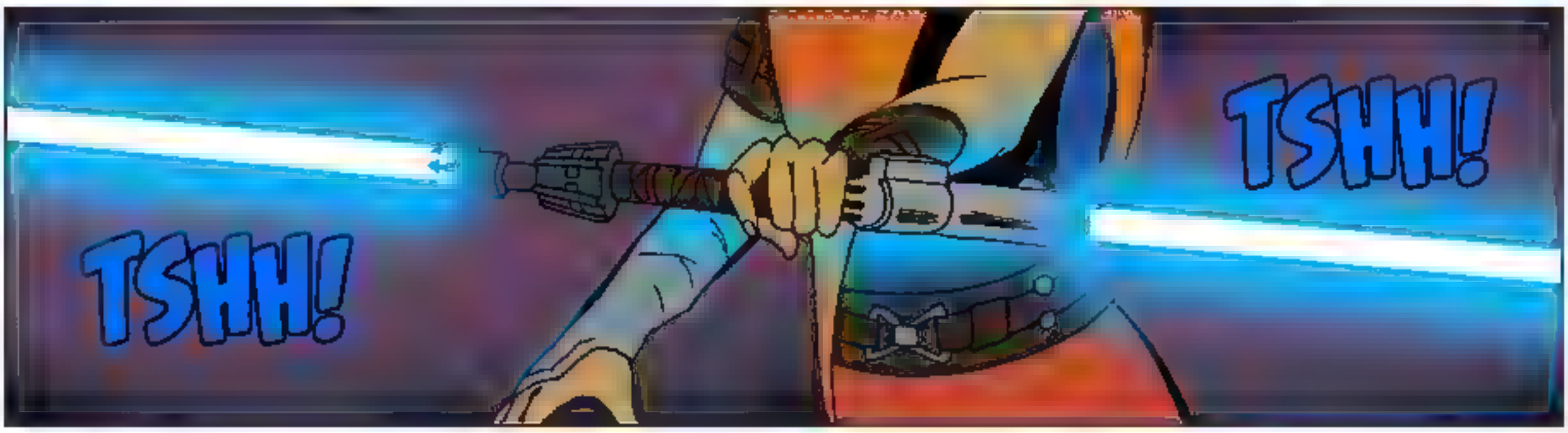
THE KNIFE 9 BANKS AWAY.

THEY'RE NOT DONE YET!


CHEWIE, WE DREW SOME ATTENTION!
??

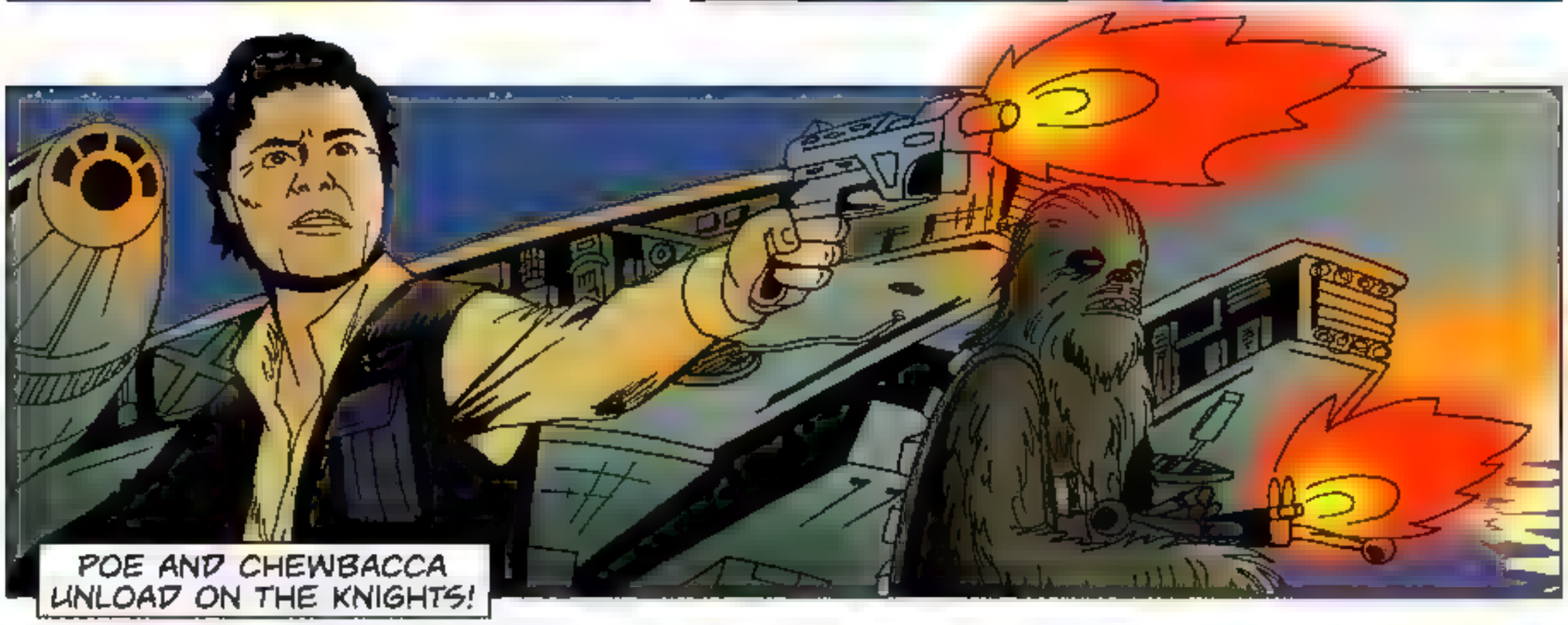

AN ADJACENT PAD LOWERS INTO VIEW.

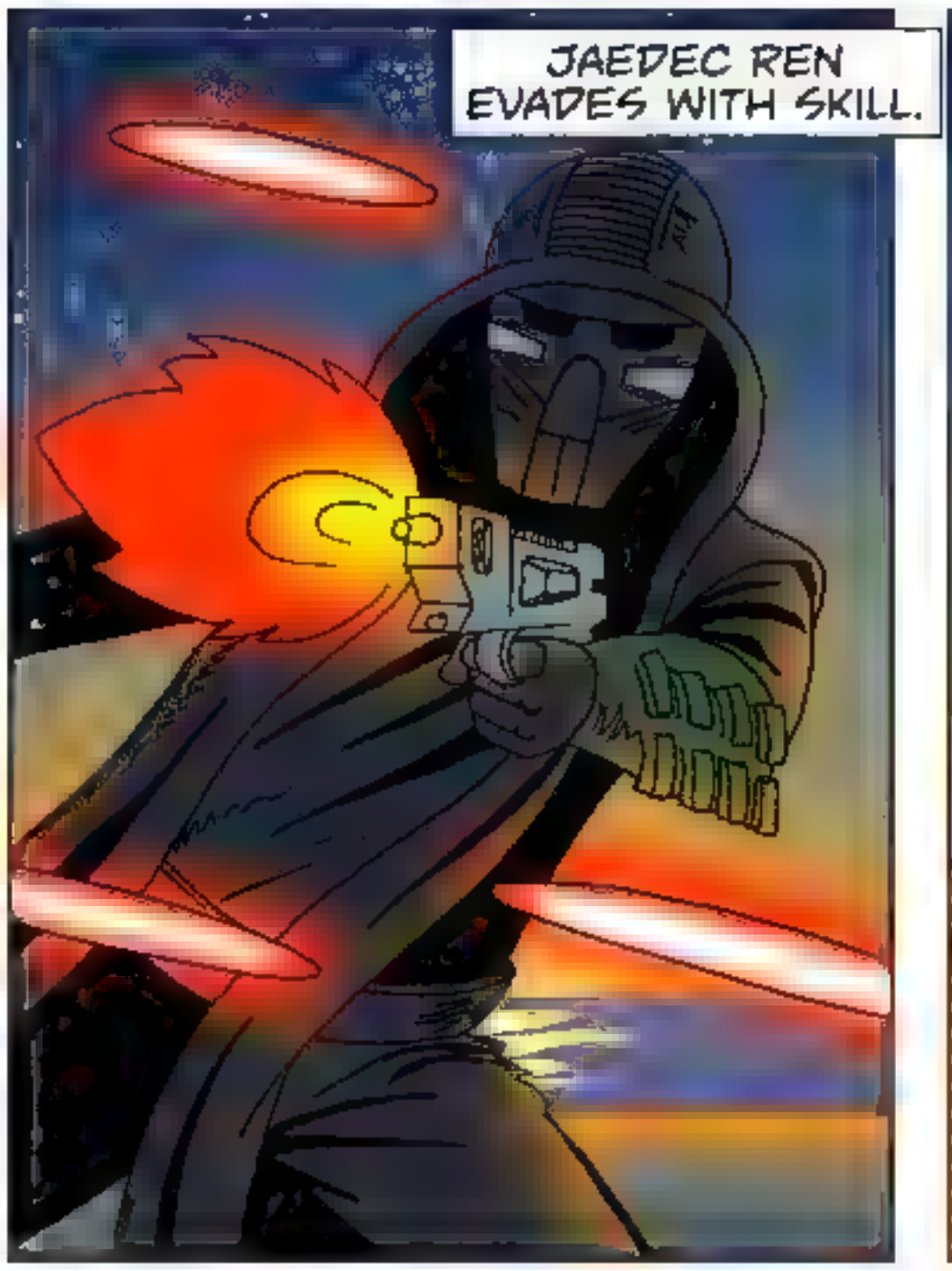
STAND BACK.


TSHH!
TSHH!

REY LEAPS ONTO THEIR LANDING PAD, OUTMATCHED...

...BUT RELENT-LESSLY SPINNING AND STRIKING!


POE AND CHEWBACCA UNLOAD ON THE KNIGHTS!


JAEDEC REN EVADES WITH SKILL.

REY DUELS HATTASKA, LIGHTSABER VERSUS DARKSABER!
KZZZZ!!

REY FORCE-PUSHES HIM OFF THE LANDING ARRAY AND HE FALLS FIFTY FEET TO THE NEXT PAD BELOW.

OTT AND LORL STAY ON REY, MOVING IN COORDINATION...

... AN UNSEEN HIVE COMMUNICATION KEEPING THEIR ATTACKS IN SYNC.

AAHH!

ZRAP!

POE'S SCREAM BRINGS UP A RAGE IN REY.

SHE SLICES THROUGH OTT REN, DROPPING HIM COLD.

VNNNNNN!

THEN SHE SPINS ON LORL, REACHES OUT...

??

... AND FORCE PULLS HIM INTO HER LIGHTSABER!

TSSSH!

HYYAAAH!

HATTASKA REN RETURNS, SWINGING THE DARKSABER WILDLY.

KLEEL

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MEANWHILE, CHEWIE FINALLY GETS AHOLD OF JAEDEC REN...

GGRRRRRHH!!

GRRAOOOOAAR!

BOOM!

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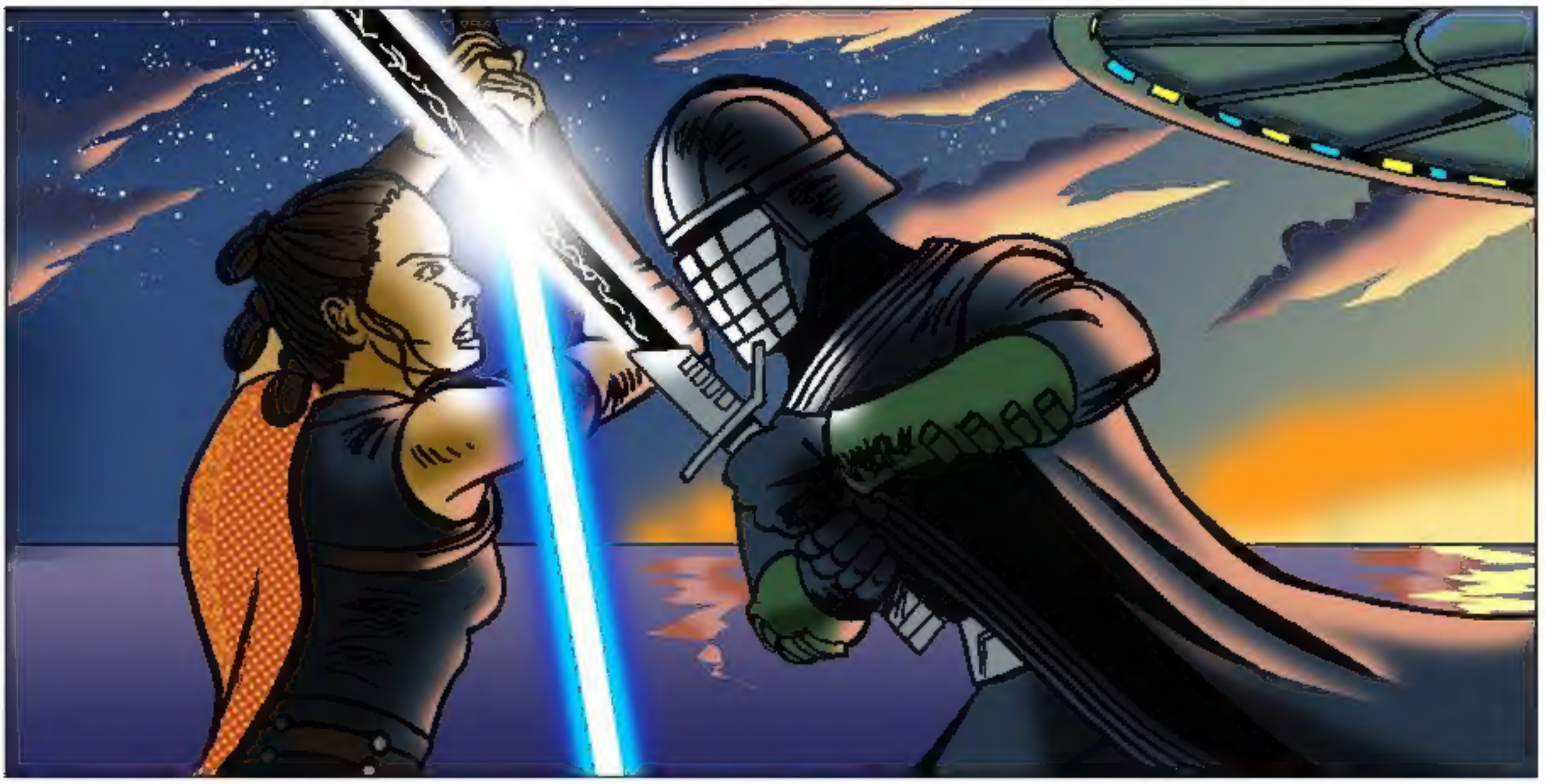

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REY SUDDENLY REMEMBERS HER FORCE-BACK VISION.

LIGHTNING FLASHES.

SHE HEARS VOICES SCREAM.

REVEALING HATTASKA REN.

THIS VISION STIRS A DEEP, VENGEFUL ANGER IN REY.

ONE SHE CAN'T YET EXPLAIN BUT KNOWS TO BE TRUE.

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REY EXTENDS HER HAND, EYES BURNING.

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